

**UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
EASTERN DISTRICT OF MISSOURI
EASTERN DIVISION**

MARTIN J. SYKES,)	
)	
Petitioner,)	
)	
v.)	No. 4:19CV-1704 NCC
)	
TERI LAWSON,)	
)	
Respondent.)	

OPINION, MEMORANDUM AND ORDER OF TRAFER

This matter is before the Court on petitioner Martin J. Sykes’ petition for a writ of habeas corpus under 28 U.S.C. § 2254.

The Petition

Petitioner, a Missouri state prisoner incarcerated at the Farmington Correctional Center (“FCC”), seeks a writ of habeas corpus under § 2254 for a conviction that arose in Greene County, Missouri. *See State v. Sykes*, No. 1331-CR01612-01 (31st Jud. Cir., Greene Cty.). The FCC is located in Farmington, Missouri, which is in St. Francois County in the Eastern District of Missouri. *See* 28 U.S.C. § 105(a)(1). Greene County is located in the Western District of Missouri. *See* 28 U.S.C. 105(b)(5).

Discussion

Under 28 U.S.C. § 2241(d), the Eastern District of Missouri and the Western District of Missouri have concurrent jurisdiction to entertain the petition. Where two district courts have concurrent jurisdiction over a petition for a writ of habeas corpus, the district in which the petition is originally filed may, in the exercise of its discretion and in furtherance of justice, transfer the petition to the other district court for hearing and determination. *See* 28 U.S.C. §

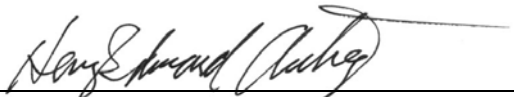
2241(d). Furthermore, on January 27, 1986, this Court entered an order stating that, absent unusual circumstances, any habeas corpus petition challenging a conviction or sentence arising out of a proceeding in the Western District of Missouri shall be transferred to that district pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 2241(d). *See In re Business of the Court*, January 27, 1986.

Although petitioner is physically located in this District, petitioner's conviction and sentence arose in the Western District of Missouri. The Court believes that the interest of justice would be better served if the petition were transferred to the United States District Court for the Western District of Missouri.

Accordingly,

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED that the Clerk of Court shall **TRANSFER** this case to the United States District Court for the Western District of Missouri.

Dated this 3rd day of October, 2019.



HENRY EDWARD AUTREY
UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGE